

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-10 AGR-10 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01

CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DLOS-06 DODE-00 DOTE-00

EB-07 EPA-04 ERDA-07 FMC-02 TRSE-00 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-02

OES-06 OMB-01 PA-02 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

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P R 231802Z SEP 76

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1928

INF ALL EC CAPITALS 2517

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

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EO. 11652:N/A

TAGS: EEC,PLOS,EFIS

SUBJECT: EC COMMISSION PROPOSALS ON THE COMMUNITY'S FUTURE FISHERIES
POLICY

REF: (A)EC BRUSSELS 9144 (B) EC BRUSSELS 7434;
(C EC BRUSSELS 9236

1. SUMMARY: AT THE CONCLUSION OF A DAY-LONG SESSION,THE
EC COMMISSION REACHED AGREEMENT NEAR MIDNIGHT SEPTEMBER 22
ON A COMMUNICATION TO THE EC COUNCIL SETTING FORTH ITS PROPOSALS
ON THE COMMUNITY'S FUTURE EXTERNAL FISHERIES POLICY AND INTERNAL
FISHERIES REGIME THE COMMISSION'S PROPOSALS WERE INTRODUCED
AT A NOON PRESS CONFERENCE SEPTEMBER 23 BY COMMISSIONERS SOAMES
AND LARDINOIS WHO EXPRESSED THEIR HOPE THAT THE EC FOREIGN MINISTERS
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WOULD GIVE THE PROPOSALS TOP PRIORITY AT THEIR NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

ON OCTOBER 18-19.
END SUMMARY.

2. THE COMMISSION'S COMMUNICATION TO THE COUNCIL IS DIVIDED INTO THREE PARTS: A PROPOSED EC COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON A 200 MILE EC FISHERIES ZONE, PROPOSED GUIDELINES FOR NEGOTIATIONS WITH THIRD COUNTRIES, AND GENERAL PRINCIPLES FOR AN INTERNAL EC FISHERIES REGIME.

AS DESCRIBED IN COMMENTS BY SOAMES AND LARDINOIS AND IN A COMMISSION PRESS STATEMENT, THE PROPOSALS FOR A 200 MILE ZONE AND FOR NEGOTIATIONS WITH THIRD COUNTRIES CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING ELEMENTS (PRINCIPLES ON THE INTERNAL EC REGIME ARE REPORTED IN SEPTTEL):

3. I. PROPOSED RESOLUTION ON 200 MILE EC FISHERIES ZONE-

-- PURSUANT TO THE EC COUNCIL'S JULY 27 DECLARATION OF INTENT, AND FOR THE PURPOSE OF FACILITATING NEGOTIATIONS FOR CONTINUED ACCESS TO THIRD COUNTRY WATERS FOR COMMUNITY FISHERMEN, PREVENTING DIVERSION OF THIRD COUNTRY FISHERMEN TO COMMUNITY WATERS, AND REBUILDING COMMUNITY STOCKS THE COMMISSION PROPOSES CREATION OF A 200-MILE COMMUNITY FISHERIES ZONE BY A COUNCIL RESOLUTION. IN THIS RESOLUTION THE MEMBER STATES WOULD AGREE TO EXTEND THEIR FISHERIES' LIMITS IN A CONCERTED ACTION IN THE NORTH SEAS AND NORTH ATLANTIC

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1977 (THE COMMISSION'S PROPOSAL DOES NOT REPEAT NOT SUGGEST ANY ACTION "AS YET" IN THE BALTIC OR THE MEDITERRANEAN, ON THE GROUND THAT COASTAL STATES IN THOSE AREAS HAVE THUS FAR MADE NO MOVES TO EXTEND THEIR FISHING LIMITS TO 200 MILES; HOWEVER THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH ACTION IN THE FUTURE IS LEFT OPEN).

-- THE COMMISSION PROPOSES THAT ACCESS BY THIRD COUNTRIES TO THE NEW 200 MILE ZONE BE CONDITIONAL ON THE CONCLUSION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE EC AND THE THIRD COUNTRY; THUS THE EC MUST BE PREPARED BOTH TO ACCEPT NEGOTIATIONS WITH THIRD PARTIES AND TO INITIATE NEGOTIATIONS WHERE THE EC HAS A CLEAR INTEREST IN

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MAINTAINING ACCESS TO THIRD COUNTRY WATERS.

4 II. PROPOSED GUIDELINES FOR NEGOTIATIONS WITH THIRD COUNTRIES-

-- THE COMMISSION ENVISAGES "FRAMEWORK AGREEMENTS" CONCERNED WITH THE LEGAL CONTEXT IN WHICH COMMUNITY FISHERMEN MAY CONTINUE TO FISH IN THIRD COUNTRY WATERS AND VICE VERSA; THE AGREEMENTS THEMSELVES WILL NOT

COVER ACTUAL TONNAGES OR QUOTAS BUT PROVIDE THE BASIS
ON WHICH THESE DETAILS WILL BE FIXED BY ANNUAL NEGOTIATIONS.
--ACCORDING TO THE COMMISSION THE " FRAMEWORK AGREEMENTS" SHOULD
TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE " PRINCIPLES GENERALLY
ACCEPTED BY THE PARTICIPANTS" AT THE LOS CONFERENCE AND CONTAIN,
DEPENDING ON THE THIRD COUNTRY INVOLVED,ALL OR SOME OF THE FOLLOWING
ELEMENTS:

RECIPROCAL FISHING RIGHTS,ACCESS TO POSSIBLE FUTURE
SURPLUSES,AND THE PHASING OUT OF EXISTING RIGHTS
WHERE NO RECIPROCAL NEGOTIATIONS IS POSSIBLE.

-- THE COMMISSION'S GUIDELINES THEN ESTABLISH
THREE BROAD CATEGORIES OF THIRD COUNTRIES:

(A-) AGREEMENTS WITH COUNTRIES WHERE THE EC HAS AN INTEREST IN
FISHING IN THEIR WATERS,BUT WHERE THEIR
FISHERMEN DO NOT TRADITIONALLY FISH EC WATERS IN THIS CATEGORY,
THE EC WILL SEEK TO BE TREATED " AT LEAST AS WELL AS ANY OTHER
THIRD COUNTRY IN THE ALLOCATION OF SURPLUS FISH STOCKS." (NOTE:
SOAMES MENTIONED THE US,CANADA,AND LOCAL FISHING IN ST.
PIERRE AND MIQUELON).

(B) AGREEMENTS WITH COUNTRIES WITH WHICH THE EC HAS EXTENSIVE
MUTUAL FISHING INTERESTS CALLING FOR RECIPROCAL ARRANGEMENTS.
SUCH AGREEMENTS MIGHT INCLUDE JOINT MEASURES TO CONSERVE STOCKS.
THE COMMISSION POINTS OUT THAT ANY REDUCTION IN EC FISHING
SHOULD BE " AS GRADUAL AS POSSIBLE." (SOAMES CITED
NORWAY,ICELAND,FAROEES,AND THE SOVIET UNION.

(C) AGREEMENTS WITH COUNTRIES FISHING IN COMMUNITY
WATERS BUT IN WHOSE WATERS COMMUNITY FISHERMEN HAVE
LITTLE INTEREST WITHOUT EXCLUDING SOME ELEMENT OF RECIPROCITY
THE COMMISSION PROPOSES THAT THE BASIC OBJECTIVE WILL BE THE
PROGRESSIVE PHASING OUT OF THESE COUNTRIES' CURRENT FISHING IN
COMMUNITY WATERS.

(SOAMES REFERRED TO SPAIN,NORWAY,SWEDEN,FINLAND,POLAND,
AND EAST GERMANY.

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5. THE MISSION WILL FURNISH TO INTERESTED OFFICES IN
THE DEPARTMENT COPIES OF THE COMMISSION COMMUNICATION
TO THE COUNCIL AS SOON AS THEY ARE AVAILABLE.
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